

1:09

read 8/29/92
discussed 9/1/92

The Glorious Fourth

Sean Kelly

- p.2 opportunity for flag of ^{or GB} Sodas , along with Am flag
- p.3 Belly wants an Am Flag
How is he dressed?
- p.4/5 overstock outlet → ~~Shop~~ Unusable Supplies Warehouse
- p.6 worries about explosions?
- p.21 Mo C & Statue of Liberty → expand
why
by little
means of liberty

last page men & women

SHINING TIME STATION

"The Glorius Fourth"

BY

Sean Kelly

FIRST DRAFT
JULY 29, 1992

8/29/92

SCENE 1
(MAINSET)

(ON -- OR MOSTLY OFF -- CAMERA WE HEAR A BRASS BAND PLAYING A PATRIOTIC MARCH. WE SEE AT LEAST TWO UNIFORMED BAND MEMBERS -- A PICCOLO PLAYER TOOTLING AWAY, AND A CYMBALS PLAYER STANDING AND AWAITING HIS CUE FROM THE CONDUCTOR. THEY STAND CLOSE TO A BUNTING-WRAPPED TABLE ON WHICH SCHEMER IS OH-SO-CAREFULLY STACKING FIREWORKS -- RED ROCKETS. [SCHEMER IS DRESSED IN A TOO-SMALL UNCLE SAM COSTUME] JUST AS SCHEMER DELICATELY SETS THE FINAL ROCKET IN PLACE ON THE TOP OF THE PYRAMID, THE CYMBALS PLAYER GETS HIS CUE AND LOUDLY CRASHES THE CYMBALS. SCHEMER JUMPS, STARTLED, AND THE STACK COLLAPSES. SCHEMER STEAMS WITH OUTRAGE AS THE BAND CONTINUES TO PLAY -- THE PICCOLO PLAYER AND CYMBALS PLAYER STOUTLY MARCH AWAY FROM HIM)

(CUT TO:)

(PAN A COLORFUL HANGING BANNER [RED, WHITE AND BLUE] "WELCOME TO THE INDIAN VALLEY 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS!")

ANGLE ON:

(THE BANNER IS HANGING OVER THE WAITING ROOM. BENEATH IT, MUCH HUSTLE AND BUSTLE -- BAND MEMBERS MARCHING OUT, [MUSIC FADES] A FAMILY [OF EXTRAS] WITH A PICNIC BASKET CROSSED FOR DIRECTIONS TO STACY AT THE INFORMATION BOOTH. DAN, KARA, AND BECKY MARCH AS FAR AS THE DOOR BEHIND THE EXITING BAND, DOING EXAGGERATED HIGH MARCHING STEPS AND LAUGHING...)

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 2

(SCHEMER IS HAPHAZARDLY RE-
PILING THE ROCKETS. WE SEE THE
SIGN ON THE TABLE "ABSOLUTELY SAFE
FIREWORKS!" BESIDE THE ROCKETS IS
A LARGE DISPLAY OF SMALL FLAGS-ON-
STICKS.

SCHEMER:

How about giving me a
hand here, Scheeme?

(HIS P.O.V.:

SCHEEEME, STANDING BESIDE THE TABLE,
IS ALSO WEARING AN UNCLE SAM SUIT)

SCHEEEME:

Sure thing, Uncle
Schemer.

SCHEMER:

Wait a minute. What's
the story with the
costume?

SCHEEEME:

Well, I figured if you
could be "Uncle" Sam, for
the Fourth of July, I
could be "Nephew" Sam...

(SCHEMER LOOKS THOUGHTFUL FOR A
BEAT)

SCHEMER:

Makes sense...

(THEY FINISH STACKING. SCHEMER
STEPS BEHIND THE TABLE, AND BEGINS
TO SHOUT, CIRCUS-BARKER STYLE --
SCHEEEME GAZES AT HIM IN IDOL-
WORSHIPING AWE)

SCENE 2 (CONT'D)

SCHEMER:

Hey, getcha fireworks!
Getcha Fourth of July
fireworks here!
Guaranteed safe highly
dangerous explosives!
Get 'em while they're
hot!

OK

(BILLY APPROACHES TABLE)

SCHEEME:

Hi, Billy.

BILLY:

Hi, Scheeme. - You're looking
very patriotic today

SCHEMER:

Ah, Mr. Two-Feathers.
you're looking very
patriotic today. What
can I sell you? A bomb?
Something in a rocket?

- elon
Billy
how is u dressed?

BILLY:

No thank you, Schemer.
But I might like a
flag...

why would Billy want an am flag?

SCHEMER:

→ could use a flag for the
caboose man to wave
at the kids when the
Independence Special goes
through town

Nephew Sam, show the man
a flag. Something in red
white and blue.

(SCHEEME HANDS BILLY A FLAG)

SCHEEME:

They're on sale today.
Ten cents each, two for a
quarter.

(BILLY TAKES A FLAG, EXAMINES IT)

SCENE 2 (CONT'D)

BILLY:

It's a beautiful flag, isn't it... Wait a minute.

(HE CONCENTRATES ON THE FLAG)

Schemer, this flag has only 48 stars. The flag is supposed to have 50 stars, one for each state.

SCHEMER:

Really? Well, I'll be... They didn't say anything about that at the highly reputable overstock outlet where I bought the...

(BILLY HANDS BACK THE FLAG TO SCHEMER)

BILLY:

Thanks anyway.

SCHEMER:

Listen, look, who's going to notice? Who counts? And you'll be waving it around, anyway... How about five cents?

SCHEEME:

Three for a quarter!

BILLY:

By the way, Schemer, what does "Absolutely Safe" fireworks mean?

(in the United States of America)

Surplus Galore Warehouse
Surplus For the Birds Warehouse
Surplus Garbage Warehouse
↳ pronounced Gar-baj
Surplus For No Use Warehouse

hell

SCENE 2 (CONT'D)

SCHEMER:

Ah. Yes. Well. I'm glad you asked me that, Billy.

(SCHEMER NOTICES THAT SCHEEEME IS LISTENING, ALL EARS)

Kid? Why don't you go away somewhere and make money? See you later. Bye now...

(SCHEEEME LEAVES. SCHEMER LEANS IN AND EXPLAINS THINGS TO BILLY -- VERY CONFIDENTIAL)

They aren't loaded.

BILLY:

What?

SCHEMER:

They're absolutely safe, because they don't work. See?

(SCHEMER POPS THE NOSE-CONE TOP OFF A ROCKET, TURNS IT UPSIDE DOWN, SHAKES IT. IT'S EMPTY)

Nothing. Nada. Zilch.

(BILLY IS PICKING UP VARIOUS ROCKETS WITH BOTH HAND AND "WEIGHING" THEM. ONE HE HOLDS SEEMS HEAVIER THAN THE OTHER)

BILLY:

Where'd you get these things, Schemer?

SCHEMER:

At the cut rate discount overstock outlet where I got the flags. Why?

another name?

SCENE 2 (CONT'D)

BILLY:

(LAUGHS)

Because I think for once
you got cheated -- some
of these are loaded.
Like this one...

(BILLY FLIPS THE ROCKET HIGH IN THE
AIR IN SCHEMER'S DIRECTION. A LOOK
OF TOTAL TERROR CROSSES SCHEMER'S
FACE. HE LUNGES AND DIVES TO CATCH
THE "LOADED" ROCKET)

BILLY:

See you later, Schemer...

choose sign thereafter

to Read

Sometimes Absolutely
Safe Fireworks

or Absolutely Safe Fireworks
Except When they Blow Up

and Have Schemer Write
it or Read it

SCENE 3
(MAINSET)

(MAYOR FLOPDINGER, ALL DRESSED UP IN A MORNING SUIT, BUSTLES IN, LOOKING AT HIS POCKET WATCH, FRANTIC. HE BUMPS INTO UNCLE SAM -- ACTUALLY, A LIFE-SIZED CARDBOARD CUT OUT OF SCHEEMER AS UNCLE SAM. HE BACKS OFF, STARTLED)

MAYOR:

Excuse me. Pardon me.
Wha...?

(HE SEES THAT BESIDE THE CUT OUT IS SCHEEME WITH A POLAROID CAMERA ON A STRAP AROUND HIS NECK)

SCHEEME:

Hi, Mayor Flopdinger!
Wanna have your picture
taken with Uncle Sam?
Only a quarter a picture, →
two for a dollar...

for one picture.

MAYOR:

Thank you, no thank you.
No time, you understand.
Busy day for those of us
in the public eye.
Fourth of July, you
know...

(THE MAYOR HEADS IN THE DIRECTION
OF THE ARCADE, SCHEEME FOLLOWING
WITH THE CUT-OUT)

SCHEEME:

Just one picture, Your
Honor? Very patriotic.
Great for the image.
It'll only take a
second...

✓ one

(MAYOR STOPS. THINKS)

MAYOR:

Hmm. Are you old enough
to vote?

SCENE 3 (CONT'D)

SCHEEME:

No, sir.

(MAYOR BUSTLES OFF, SCHEEME TAGGING BEHIND)

MAYOR:

Well, *in that case I have*
↳ No time now, no time.
See me later... in a
couple of years...

(TOGETHER THEY ARRIVE AT THE:)

SCENE 4
(ARCADE)

SCHEMER:

✓
Your Honor! Mayor Flopdinger, sir! Always a pleasure! Happy Fourth of July to you!

MAYOR:

Yes, indeed. Schemer, I just wanted to check. To double check. About tonight's pyrotechnical display.

SCHEMER:

The pirates did what?
~~What pirates?~~ Where are the pirates coming tonight?

MAYOR:

The PYRO-TECH-NICS. The fireworks. The ones you sold to the town. I presume everything is in order for the rockets' red glare, the ~~bobs~~ bursting in air, all that sort of thing?

✓ bombs

SCHEMER:

Oh, I hope so, sir. I mean, certainly, yes sir,
Your Honor.

SCHEEME:

Uncle Schemer, did you sell the mayor fireworks like these ones...?

(SCHEMER GRABS SCHEEME, CLAMPS A HAND OVER HIS MOUTH)

SCHEMER:

No. Yes. Boy, kids today, eh, Your Honor?

They're always asking their cute little questions

SCENE 4 (CONT'D)

(BUT THE MAYOR IS DISTRACTED.
HE'S SPOTTED STACY, AND DASHES AWAY
TO SPEAK TO HER)

MAYOR:

Ah, there she is. Miss
Jones! Stacy! Miss
Jones...

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 5
(MAINSET)

(STACY AT THE INFO BOOTH IS FINISHED GIVING DIRECTIONS TO A FAMILY OF EXTRAS, AND THEY ARE LEAVING)

STACY:

You can't miss it. Right across the road from the bandshell. Enjoy your picnic!

MAYOR:

(O.S.)

Miss Jones! Stacy!

(BREATHLESS, THE MAYOR APPROACHES STACY IN THE BOOTH)

STACY:

Hi, Mayor Flopdinger! Don't you just love the Fourth of July? Isn't it exciting?

MAYOR:

Well, that's easy for you to say, Miss Jones. You don't have to give a speech.

STACY:

Oh, but a Fourth of July speech should be easy for an orator and statesman like you -- You can talk about the Revolution and the Constitution, the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights...

MAYOR:

I can?

Are you enjoying
the Fourth of July
so far?

SCENE 5 (CONT'D)

STACY:

Sure. And you can remind us about Democracy. You know... "Government of the people, by the people and for the people..."

MAYOR:

Say, Miss Jones, that's good. That's excellent! Do you mind if I use it? Have you got a pencil? A piece of paper? How did it go again? May I quote you?

(STACY FINDS PAPER AND PENCIL,
HANDS THEM TO THE MAYOR)

STACY:

Well, actually, your honor, it's President Lincoln's.

MAYOR:

(IMPRESSED)

Really? This very pencil belonged to President Lincoln! Think of that! Ah, what a precious heirloom!

STACY:

No, sir, I meant the words. "By the people, for the people and of the people."

SCENE 5 (CONT'D)

MAYOR:

Miss Jones, keep the pencil, It must be very valuable. Miss Jones, I've just had one of my famous brilliant ideas. You, as the proud possessor of a pencil once owned by President Lincoln, are the one who should give the patriotic speech tonight!

STACY:

But Your Honor, sir, I...
I can't... that is...

(THE MAYOR BEGINS TO RETREAT,
SMILING)

MAYOR:

No need to thank me.
Consider it done. Now I
must hurry off and
compose a suitable
introduction for you!
Until this evening, then.

(SFX: TRAIN ARRIVING)

(THE MAYOR CHECKS HIS POCKET WATCH)

Ah! That must be the
~~Fourth of July~~ Special
Express arriving. Right
on time!

Independence Special

STACY:

Oh, dear.

(AS THE MAYOR EXITS, A MOB OF
TRAVELERS ENTER)

Oh, dear!

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 6
(MAINSET)

(MONTAGE OF THE BUSY STATION. THE BRASS BAND [OR AT ANY RATE, THE PICCOLO PLAYER] IS BACK AND PLAYS "YANKEE DOODLE" OVER MOST MONTAGE OF SCENES...)

THE EXTRAS INCLUDE KIDS WEARING STATUE OF LIBERTY CROWNS, PARENTS PUSHING BABY CARRIAGES, DECORATED WITH BALLOONS, FLAGS AND STREAMERS...)

STREET ENTERTAINERS, E.G. STILT-WALKER, FIRE-EATER, JUGGLER, MIMES, A PERFORMING DOG...ALL IN PATRIOTIC GET-UPS.

WE SEE THEM WITH SCHEMER BUYING FLAGS AND ROCKETS... WITH SCHEEME AND HIS UNCLE SAM CUT-OUT HAVING THEIR PICTURES TAKEN... WITH STACY GETTING DIRECTIONS AND INFORMATION...)

(MUSIC FADES...)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

(no kids buying rocket)

SCENE 7
(MAINSET)

(STACY WAVING GOODBYE TO THE LAST OF THEM. SHE SIGHS. TAKES UP A PENCIL.

STACY:

(TO HERSELF)

Now, let's see. What can I say? "Ask not what your country can do for you." Hmm ...

BECKY & KARA:

(O.S.)

Hi, Stacy!

(STARTLED [AND INTERRUPTED] STACY LOOKS UP)

(KARA AND BECKY HOP HAPPILY TOWARD HER -- THEIR LEGS -- OR AT LEAST, ONE LEG OF EACH -- ARE TIED TOGETHER WITH TWINE)

KARA:

We're ~~in training~~ for the three-legged race.

practicing

BECKY:

And there's sack races,
and a soft ball game ...

are
✓

KARA:

And there's prizes and everything!

✓

STACY:

Hmmm.

BECKY:

Ooops. Sorry. If you're busy...

SCENE 7 (CONT'D)

KARA:

Can we help?

STACY:

No, that's all right,
kids... Hey maybe you
can help.

(STACY PICKS UP HER PENCIL AGAIN,
AS IF INTERVIEWING THE GIRLS)

What does the Fourth of
July mean to you?

KARA:

Fireworks. Picnics.

BECKY:

Flags. Bands. A parade.

KARA:

Games. Like races. and,
uhm... lemonade!

BECKY:

Fireworks!

KARA:

I said fireworks.

STACY:

Okay, but what else?
What about Liberty?
Freedom? Independence?

KARA:

Oh, right.

BECKY:

All that stuff. Sure...

I learned about those things

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 8
(INT. JUKEBOX)

TITO:

Hey, amigos! A happy
Fourth of July to all
of you!

GRACE:

Right back at you, Tito,
baby.

DIDI:

My favorite days have
always been holidays.

REX:

The Fourth of July brings
a tear to mah eye.

TEX:

Why Rex -- you crazy
rhymin' cowboy, you!

(WAILS)

The Fourth of
Juuuly/Brings a tear to
mah eeeye...

REX:

Shut up, Tex.

Tito... Tex

DIDI:

Tito -- what exactly does
"Independence" mean to
you?

TITO:

Let me think. I guess it
means freedom, you know.
Like being my own boss --
pulling my own strings.

like playing my own tunes in my own way

SCENE 8 (CONT'D)

GRACE:

Putting your own story
Now that is something I
would love to see!

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 9
(MAINSET)

(STACY HAS LEFT. KARA AND BECKY ARE PRACTICING THEIR RACING TECHNIQUE)

KARA:

Okay now, left!

(THEY STUMBLE)

Whoops. I meant my left,
your right. Okay?
Right!

(THEY STUMBLE)

BECKY:

Whose right? My right?

DAN:

(OS)

Kara! Becky! Look at this!

(DAN ENTERS, CARRYING A "HUMANE" TRAP -- WITH A RABBIT IN IT. HE CROSSES TO THE COUNTER AND SETS IT DOWN. THE GIRLS HOP OVER.

BECKY:

What is it? Oh, wow! A rabbit.

KARA:

It's a real rabbit!

DAN:

Yeah, Isn't it great?

KARA:

Is it okay? It isn't hurt, is it?

SCENE 9 (CONT'D)

BECKY:

Whose is it, Dan? Is it yours?

DAN:

It's Billy's, I guess. I mean, it's his trap. I helped him set it in the garden out back.

✓

KARA:

I wonder what he'll do with it?

(MR. C. APPEARS ON THE COUNTER BESIDE THE CAGE)

MR. C:

Knowing Billy, he'll let it go. Give it its freedom. It's a good day for freedom.

KARA, BECKY, DAN:

(AD LIB)

Hi, Mr. Conductor
(etc.).

MR. C:

Hi kids. Happy Fourth!

DAN:

Where have you been, Mr. Conductor?

BECKY:

In Sodor?

SCENE 9 (CONT'D)

MR. C:

Well, if you must know,
I've been in New York,
visiting a lady friend.
A beautiful French lady
friend, in fact.

KARA:

(GIGGLING)

Really? From France?

BECKY:

What's her name, Mr.
Conductor?

MR. C:

The Statue of Liberty,.
of course. I drop in on
her every Fourth of July.

(ANGLE ON:)

(SCHEEME CREEPING OUT OF THE
ARCADE, CAMERA AT THE READY)

DAN:

(OS)

But she's not French!

KARA:

(OS)

She is so. The French
people gave her to
America. We learned that
in history.

DAN:

(OS)

We did? Oh, yeah, I knew
that. I was just
testing...

SCENE 9 (CONT'D)

SCHEEME:

(SHOUTS)

Say cheese!

(HE TAKES A PICTURE, FLASHBULB FLASHING. INSTANTLY, IN A CLOUD OF SPARKLING DUST, MR. C. VANISHES)

KARA:

Scheeme!

DAN:

Why do you do stuff like that?

BECKY:

You scared the rabbit!

(DAN PICKS UP THE CAGE)

DAN:

C'mon, guys. Let's take it to Billy.

(THEY EXIT. SCHEEME SHOUTS AFTER THEM...)

SCENE 9 (CONT'D)

SCHEEME:

Hey! Don't you wanna see your picture? Just 25 cents each -- four for a dollar... *three*

(SCHEEME PULLS THE PICTURE OUT OF THE CAMERA, LOOKS AT IT)

Boy, look at those faces!
Looks like four scared rabbits. Hey... what's that?

(CUT TO:)

(CU: THE PICTURE IN HIS HAND -- BESIDE THE RABBIT CAGE, A CLOUD OF GOLD DUST)

(CUT TO:)

(CU SCHEEME)

Gold dust!

(HE RUNS TO THE COUNTER, SEARCHING FRANTICALLY, RUNNING HIS FINGERS OVER IT)

Rich. I'm gonna be rich!
Where... Yeah! Here it is! Gee, there's not much of it, is there...

(SCHEEME RUBS HIS FINGERS TOGETHER AND DISAPPEARS. [ONLY THE CAMERA REMAINS, HANGING AROUND HIS INVISIBLE NECK])

(VO)

Oh well, too bad. I guess nothing really exciting ever happens around this place... Still... gold...

(SCHEEME FLICKERS BACK TO VISIBILITY)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 10
(BILLY'S OFFICE)

(THE RABBIT AND CAGE ARE ON BILLY'S DESK. DAN, BECKY, AND KARA ARE GATHERED AROUND. BILLY CHUCKLES AT THE ANIMAL)

BILLY:

So this is the fellow who's been eating all my vegetables. You're a hungry one, aren't you, little nephew?

✓

DAN:

What are you going to do with him, Billy?

BECKY:

Can we keep him as a pet?

BILLY:

Oh, I don't think little nephew here would be happy as a pet. I'll take him with me when I leave and let him go out in the woods.

✓

KARA:

How come you call him "Nephew?"

BILLY:

Well, the people known as the Winnebago said that all human beings were the uncles and aunts of this particular animal. In their stories, he was an important animal-spirit -- to them he was a brave hero -- and a very clever trickster.

DAN:

Like Bugs Bunny in the movies!

SCENE 10 (CONT'D)

KARA:

Or Br'er Rabbit in the
Uncle Remus stories.

BILLY:

Pretty much, yes.

BECKY:

Tell us one, Billy? A
Winny... Winub...

BILLY:

Winnebago. They lived in
what we now call
Wisconsin. Well...

(BILLY LOOKS AT THIS WATCH, PUS IT
AWAY, SITS)

They say that once Hare
came upon a path in the
forest, and he decided to
catch whoever had made
that path. So he made a
trap of thistles. But
whatever it was who had
walked along that path
broke out of the trap.
Hare made another trap,
of bark and string. But
whoever walked the path
escaped that trap, too.
Then he asked his
Grandmother for a rope of
her braided hair and made
another trap. The next
morning he heard someone
crying "Hare, come and
untie me!" In the trap
he saw something shining
-- and he realized he had
captured the Sun! Of
course, he had to cut it
loose, and while he was
doing that, his tail got
scorched. See what a
little tail Hare still
has?

present Tense or past?

✓

SCENE 10 (CONT'D)

(LAUGHING, BILLY LIFTS THE RABBIT OUT OF THE CAGE, AND TAKES IT WITH HIM AS HE HEADS OUT)

BILLY (CONT'D):

Come with me, Nephew.
You freed the sun -- now
I'll free you.

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 11
(MAINSET)

(AT THE TICKET BOOTH, STACY IS TRYING TO WRITE HER SPEECH WITH SOME UN-ASKED FOR HELP FROM SCHEMER)

SCHEMER:

Why is July 4th about freedom? I'll tell you. July 4th is about America. America is a country. In the country, there's fresh air. And fresh air is free!

pena will be overlooked

) do in the country. How we

(PAUSE)

Unfortunately. If only people could find a way to charge people for fresh air...

SCHEEME:

Pssst! Pssst!

STACY:

Thanks, Schemer. You've been a big help with this speech I have to give...

sweatily?

SCHEMER:

Any time, Miss Jones.

(SCHEMER CROSSES TO SCHEEME IN THE:)

SCENE 12
(ARCADE)

SCHEMER:

What is it, blight of my life?

SCHEEEME:

Look. Look at this, Uncle Schemer. It's gold!

SCHEMER:

Oh, sure. You've discovered gold right here in -- Great Gatsby! It is gold!

SCHEEEME:

Shhh! I found a little pile of it, right over there. And that means...

SCHEMER:

...There must be a big pile of it around here somewhere!

SCHEEEME:

Exacta-mundo!

SCHEMER:

But how...

(SCHEMER PAUSES. THINKS. GETS IT. SNAPS FINGERS. LOOKS AROUND, AFRAID SOMEONE HAS HEARD HIM SNAP FINGERS. WHISPERS)

Tonight -- when everyone's at the park listening to the speeches and watching the fireworks... we'll turn this place upside-down. We're gonna be rich!
Shhh!

SCENE 12 (CONT'D)

(SCHEMER VERY NEARLY SHOUTS THE WORD "RICH", CATCHES AND SHUSHES HIMSELF. HE AND SCHEME CROSS, WITH FORCED CASUALNESS, TO EXIT. THEY PASS THE MAYOR IN THE:)

SCENE 13
(MAINSET)

MAYOR:

(AS USUAL, HE'S CHECKING HIS WATCH)

You'll be there when you wait you
Will you be on time, Miss Jones? First rule of politics -- don't keep 'em waiting. For too long, that is.

(Woody Allen line)

as they — 99%, of police, is just say — I am going

(CHUCKLE, CHUCKLE)

(STACY, CARRYING HER PAPERS,
CROSSES TO THE MAYOR)

STACY:

Your Honor, I'm not so sure about this... I mean...

MAYOR:

Nonsense, my dear. You're a born orator... Now, don't forget that there's an election coming up. You might throw in some mention about my participation in the Gas Works... Yes, I've heard them call me "Mr. Gas Works." Well, see you on the podium.

*work to build a
Hot air Generator*

Hot air

(HE EXITS)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 14
(STATION CLOCK, HANDS TURNING)

SCENE 15
(MAINSET)

(IT'S QUITE DARK. AT THE COUNTER,
STACY IS STILL SCRIBBLING AWAY ON
HER SPEECH. MR. C. APPEARS BESIDE
HER PAPERS)

MR. C:

Don't' work in the dark,
Stacy. You'll tire
your eyes.

(CONCENTRATING, NOT LOOKING UP,
STACY REACHES AND SWITCHES ON A
LAMP)

STACY:

Thanks.

(PAUSE)

Oh, hi, Mr. Conductor!
It is getting cloudy and
dark out, isn't it? I
hope it doesn't rain on
the fireworks...

KARA & BECKY:

(OS)

We won! Stacy! We won!

(KARA, BECKY AND DAN ENTER HAPPILY)

KARA:

We won the three-legged
race!

DAN:

Thanks to my coaching.

MR. C:

Where's that rabbit, Dan?

SCENE 15 (CONT'D)

DAN:

Oh, hi, Mr. Conductor.
He's fine, I guess. Billy
took him out in the woods
somewhere and let him
escape.

MR. C:

Good for Billy. We had
an escape not long ago on
the Island of Sodor.

STACY:

you mean, someone escaped
from Sodor?

MR. C:

No, no, no. Listen...

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 16

(TTE: "ESCAPE")

SCENE 17
(MAINSET)

(STACY AND THE KIDS ARE GATHERED AROUND MR. C. IT HAS GROWN EVEN DARKER. THROUGH THE WINDOWS WE CAN NOW SEE LIGHTNING FLASHES)

DAN:

Wow. What a close call
for Oliver!

BECKY:

That was a scary story,
Mr. Conductor.

KARA:

'Specially with all that
lightning outside!
Brrr!

(ANGLE ON:

BILLY STANDING ACROSS THE ROOM,
NEWLY RETURNED)

BILLY:

C'mon everybody, unless
you want to miss the
fireworks...

(A FLASH OF LIGHTNING)

Don't worry about that.
It's only "heat
lightning". Let's go.
Stacy -- don't forget
your speech...

(TOGETHER THEY EXIT. MR. C. WAVES GOODBYE. A BEAT. SCHEMER AND SCHEEME TIP TOE IN FORM THE ARCADE AREA. THEY WEAR COVERALLS -- AND MINER'S HATS WITH LIGHTS ON THEM -- PRACTICALLY THE ONLY LIGHT IN THE STATION IS PROVIDED BY THEIR ERRATIC, SWEEPING BEAMS. THEY ALSO HAVE AN INDUSTRIAL VACUUM CLEANER, WITH A HOSE AND NOZZLE. THEY "SHUSH" EACH OTHER CONSTANTLY)

SCENE 17 (CONT'D)

MR. C:

I wonder what those two
are up to?

(MR. C. DISAPPEARS FROM THE COUNTER
IN A SPRINKLE OF GOLD DUST... AND
REAPPEARS IN A SIMILAR GLITTERING
CLOUD BEHIND THEM IN THE:)

SCENE 18
(ARCADE)

(JUST AS MR. C APPEARS, WE HEAR THE SUDDEN ROAR OF THE VACUUM -- AND SEE THAT HE IS RIGHT BESIDE THE NOZZLE. IT INSTANTLY SUCKS UP HIS GOLD DUST. HE JUMPS BEHIND SOMETHING [THE JUKEBOX?] TO HIDE)

SCHEEME:

(OS)

Uncle Schemer! Over here, quick! I found some! I found some gold dust!

MR. C:

(WHISPERS)

Oh my goodness -- I've lost my magic dust. Now I can't disappear. This is serious!

(MR. C. RUNS AWAY ALONG THE TOP OF A BENCH, OUT OF FRAME)

(THE ROAR OF THE VACUUM STOPS ABRUPTLY)

(CUT TO:)

(CU: SCHEMER AND SCHEEME WHISPERING, THEIR FACE WEIRDLY LIT UP BY EACH OTHER'S HEAD LAMPS...)

SCHEMER:

You found some gold?

SCHEEME?

I think so. I vacuumed it up.

(A SOUND: SOMETHING SMALL KNOCKED OVER AND FALLING)

SCHEMER:

What was that?

SCENE 18 (CONT'D)

SCHEEME:

What?

(SOUND: A PATTER OF TINY FOOTSTEPS
RUNNING AWAY)

SCHEMER:

Listen! There's someone
in here with us.
Someone trying to steal
our gold! We'll just see
about that...

(CHASE SEQUENCE)

(AROUND THE ARCADE, SCHEMER'S
HEADLAMP SWEEPS... MR. C. FLATTENS
HIMSELF AGAINST THE WALL, DUCKS AND
SCURRIES)

SCHEMER:

(VO)

C'mon. I gotcha now.
Come to poppa. What are
you, a man or a mouse. I
hope you're a mouse...
There you are!

(BRIEFLY CAUGHT IN THE LIGHT, MR.
C. LEAPS... ONTO THE TABLE WITH
SCHEMER'S ROCKETS ON DISPLAY.
DESPERATE, HE STRADDLES A ROCKET,
LIGHTS A MATCH TO ITS FUSE... AND
IN A MIGHTY ROAR AND TRAIL OF
SPARKS THE ROCKET, WITH MR. C. ON
BOARD, FLIES PAST THE STARTLED
SCHEMER AND ACROSS THE STATION IN
THE DIRECTION OF BILLY'S WORKSHOP)

SCHEMER:

Stop! Thief! Come back
here! How dare you steal
my only rocket that
works?

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 19
(INT. JUKEBOX)

(THE PUPPETS ARE STARING UP)

DIDI:

What was that?

GRACE:

That was loud.

TEX:

Sounded worser 'n Rex's
old pick-up truck back
firin'!

TITO:

It was fireworks! That's
our cue, gang! Hit it!
One two three...

(PUPPET BAND PERFORMS "YANKEE
DOODLE")

(DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE 20
(ARCADE)

(SCHEEME SQUATS ON THE FLOOR,
TRYING TO OPEN THE VACUUM CLEANER)

SCHEEME:

(MUTTERING TO HIMSELF)

(he...)

Gold. There's a trillion-
dollars worth of gold in
here, and I can't get the
darn thing open. C'mon.
C'mon!

(WITH A MIGHTY EFFORT, HE POPS IT
OPEN... AND GOLD DUST FLIES OUT AND
UP AND ALL OVER HIM. HE INSTANTLY
DISAPPEARS, BECOMING JUST A
FLOATING MINER'S HELMET AND A PAIR
OF GLOVES. OF COURSE, HE DOESN'T
KNOW THIS. HE GETS UP AND GOES IN
SEARCH OF HIS UNCLE.

Uncle Schemer, I'm rich!
I mean, we're rich.
Uncle Schemer? Where are
you?

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 21
(BILLY'S WORKSHOP)

(THE BURNT-OUT ROCKET AND MR. C. ARE ON TOP OF BILLY'S DESK AT THE EMPTY RABBIT TRAP. MR. C. IS BACKING AWAY, LOOKING FRANTICALLY FOR A MEANS OF ESCAPE, AS SCHEMER'S LIGHT SWEEPS THE SURFACE)

SCHEMER:

(VO)

Okay, Mister Rocket-stealer. I know you're not a ghost. You're not a ghost! You're a mouse. So, c'mon out with your paws up...

(MR. C. BACKS INTO THE TRAP, WHICH SNAPS LOUDLY SHUT)

SCHEMER (CONT'D):

(VO)

Ah-ha! Trapped like a mouse in a trap. In fact, you are a mouse in a trap. I've gotcha now...

(ANGLE ON:)

(SCHEMER BENDING OVER, PICKING UP THE TRAP)

SCHEEME:

(OS)

What'cha doin', Uncle Schemer?

(SCHEMER TURNS TO THE VOICE IN THE DOORWAY)

(SCHEMER'S POV:)

(A FLOATING HAT AND GLOVES IN THE DOORWAY)

(SCHEMER SCREAMS, DROPS THE TRAP, WHICH SWINGS OPEN)

SCENE 21 (CONT'D)

(INTERCUT)

(MR. C. CLAMBERING OUT OF THE OPEN
TRAP)

(TERRIFIED, SCHEMER RUNS PAST THE
INVISBLE SCHEEME, OUT ONTO THE:

SCENE 22
(MAINSET)

(WE HEAR THUNDER AND SEE LIGHTNING FLASHES THROUGH THE WINDOWS. VERY GOTHIC. SCHEMER, YELLING AND WHIMPERING, RUNS AROUND THE STATION AWAY FROM THE INVISIBLE MAN WHO FOLLOWS HIM. EVENTUALLY, HE BUMPS INTO THE SCARIEST SIGHT OF ALL, THE LIFE-SIZED CARDBOARD CUT-OUT OF HIMSELF. WITH A FINAL HOWL, HE DASHES OUT OF THE STATION... SCHEEME BEHIND HIM ALL THE WAY...)

✓

SCHEEME:

(AD LIB)

Uncle Schemer, we're rich. Come back. What's wrong? We're rich. Uncle Schemer...

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 23
(ARCADE)

(ON THE FLOOR BESIDE THE OPEN VACUUM CLEANER, MR. C. GATHERS UP HIS MAGIC DUST. HE SMILES, AND TALKS TO HIMSELF)

MR. C:

Now that's a funny thing about freedom -- I must remember to enjoy it more often -- even no one's trying to take it away...

(HE SPRINKLES HIMSELF AND VANISHES)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

✓ even when
freedom -- you hardly know it's there until it's gone --
I must remember to take good care of it and to enjoy it more often.

SCENE 24
(MAINSET)

(STACY, BILLY, KARA, BECKY, DAN AND THE MAYOR ENTER, SHAKING OUT UMBRELLAS...)

KARA:

Stacy, you were great.

STACY:

Thank you, Kara.

MAYOR:

I second that, Miss Jones. It was a wonderful speech. Moving, touching, and so forth. No, I mean it, it was. And if it hadn't started raining all over the crowd, I'm sure everybody else would have stayed and enjoyed it, too.

STACY:

Well, I don't know...

(THEY ARE INTERRUPTED BY SCHEMER AND SCHEEME WHO NOW REENTER. SOAKING WET. SCHEEME HAS RETURNED TO NORMAL -- THOUGH THEY BOTH STILL ~~WARP~~ THEIR COVERALLS AND MINERS HATS)

✓ WEAR

SCHEMER:

...the idea of scaring your poor old uncle half to death like that!

SCHEEME:

Gee, I'm sorry, Schemer, I didn't mean to...

BILLY:

What are you two all dressed up for?

SCENE 24 (CONT'D)

SCHEMER:

What? This? Dressed like this? Why? Uhm... Because while you were out having fun, Scheeme and I were here at the station, working.

BILLY:

Working at what?

SCHEEME:

(THINKING FAST)

Capturing wild animals
Exterminating! Yeah!
you may not know it, but
this place is full of.. little
wild animals. Right,
Uncle Schemer? → that need to be put in cages

SCHEMER:

And ghosts, too.

BECKY:

Stacy -- how were you going to end your July Fourth speech, anyway?

STACY:

I didn't really know, Becky. I guess with the words that Independence Day is all about: "We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

of course
(and that means women too)

(PAN THE GROUP, AS STACY RECITES.
THE OTHERS SAY THE WORDS ALONG WITH
HER -- THE MAYOR WITH HIS HAND ON
HIS HEART. AT THE CONCLUSION,
EVERYONE APPLAUDS)